

NOTES  
MANSFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting – Thursday, February 25, 2016  
Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

Members Present: S. Ferrigno, J. McGuire, D. Fecho, A. Marcellino (ex officio)

Staff Present: Matthew Hart, Town Manager; Janell Mullen, Assistant Planner; Kevin Filchak, Graduate Intern

Ferrigno called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Public Comment: B. Schafer, Echo Road, addressed the Commission regarding marketing the Downtown as a 'live near your work' location. Provided the Commission with a packet showing an example from University of Minnesota.

Approval of Minutes: Due to a lack of quorum, December 2015 and January 2016 minutes were tabled until March EDC meeting.

Old Business:

1. Project Green Space: Hart explained the proposal under consideration by the legislature and the referral from the Town Council. Hart also detailed the responses from the other Town Committees and Commissions thus far. McGuire suggested drafting a position statement. Ferrigno and McGuire opposed the motion. Fecho wanted more information. Ferrigno tasked Filchak with drafting a position statement for the Commission for the March meeting.
2. Mansfield Quick Reference Guide: Filchak presented and explained the design of the packet and magnets. Marcellino asked about what packets are currently provided to new businesses and suggested these be submitted to them.

New Business:

1. Draft Zoning Regulations: Janell Mullen presented to the Commission prioritized sections of the Zoning Regulations currently being reviewed and updated: Water Connections, Stormwater, Live Music, and Alcoholic and Liquor Permits. Mullen explained and answered several questions on each from the Commission. Hart explained that the goal is to move the Regulations towards a framework. Ferrigno asked if the Commission should submit comments regarding the proposed regulations. Mullen concurred.
2. Website Updates: Filchak presented the proposed changes to the Town's Business and Economic Development webpages. The Commission asked questions concerning the location on the webpage. McGuire proposed adding a town brand to webpage.
3. Featured Business: Filchak presented a draft version of a featured business. Marcellino asked where we could put this on the website. Ferrigno asked how often the EDC should feature a business. Hart suggested quarterly. Marcellino asked that a set of criteria be developed. Commission will discuss proposed criteria in March.

Reports:

- Staff Update: Hart provided staff update. Discussed the Town Council / PZC joint committee on Housing and Rental Housing properties. Explained that Filchak is currently researching town branding. Updated on Storrs Center retail spaces and their new tenants, stating that forty percent of Phase II spaces have been rented. Hart said that they are in talks with potential Brew Pub tenants. Hart explained that he and Linda Painter met with the owners of Kirby Mill and discussed the possibility of converting the space into a business accelerator. Hart then explained the potential sale of Region 19 facilities to University of Connecticut. The Commission discussed and asked questions concerning the sale and its potential impacts. Hart concluded his comments by saying that he would review appointments to the

Commission. Marcellino asked about the business visitation surveys and when they would continue. McGuire stated that the old version of the surveys had been updated to the new model and updated Commission on observed trends.

Adjournment: Ferrigno adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.